ported; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned from the export of tea during 1991-92 till January 31, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The production of Tea in Kerala during the last three years was as follows:-

Year	Production(M. Kgs)	
1989	53.88	
1990°	64 03	
1991*	67 11	

*Fstimated

(b) Indian Teas are exported to U.K., Germany, Russia, Poland, USA, ARE Tunisia, Morocco, Syria, Japan, etc

(c) Total export earnings from April 1991 to January, 1992 are estimated at Rs. 1014.30 crores.

Export of Handlooms and Handicrafts

5082. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state.

- (a) the value of handlooms and handicrafts exported during each of the last three years:
- (b) whether there is a vast scope for increasing the export of these items; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken in this regard during 1991-92?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The export of cotton handloom fabrics/made ups and handicraft items during the last three years has been as follows:

Exports (Rs. in crores)

	Handloom fabrics & made-ups	Handicrafts Items
1989-90	341 85	1008.64
1990-91	407.2 6	1220.00
1991-92 (April 91-Februar)	609 18 y 92)	1730.24

(b) and (c). Government have taken a number of steps to maximise export earnings from handlooms and handicraft items during 1991-92 which include sending sales-cumstudy teams, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines and distribution of publicity materials, participation in fairs in major markets, grant of export incentives etc. Besides, Handloom Exports Promotion Council, Madras has commenced a

programme for upgradation of handloom production facilities mainly for exports in coordination with the weavers Service Centres. Directorate of Handloom and other concerned organisations.

Export of Pepper

5083. SHRIK, MURALEEDHARAN; WIII the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: